

## ASPEN SEEDLING TRANSPLANT INFORMATION



For Personal Use  
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest  
Grand Valley Ranger District

The Aspen Seedling Removal Area is located on the Uncompahgre Plateau in Township 50 North, Range 16 West in Section 21. For those traveling from Grand Junction, take Highway 50 to just south of Whitewater. Turn west on Highway 141 to the Divide Road Uncompahgre Forest Access. Turn south onto Divide Road and travel approximately 33 miles south. Signs to access the Aspen Seedling area are located on the west side of the road, just beyond the cattleguard. There are pullouts on each side of the road at this point. The Aspen Seedling area is a short walk to the west from the signs (about 150 feet). Please DO NOT remove aspen seedlings from other areas, especially along the old roadbed or behind the fence.

We ask that an aspen seedling be left every six (6) feet for spacing to provide a healthy, fully stocked stand for the future. Please fill in all holes after seedlings have been removed with an equivalent amount of soil to eliminate the likelihood of cattle and game animal leg injuries, and to prevent possible soil erosion problems.

Only hand digging is allowed. Mechanical digging machines, such as tree spades, are prohibited.

You must possess transplant tags to dig aspen. Transplant tags are \$5.00 per seedling, with a minimum purchase of \$20.00, and maximum of 10 seedlings per permit per year. The tags can be purchased in Grand Junction at the Grand Valley Ranger District office, 2777 Crossroads Boulevard, or in Delta at the Forest Supervisor's office at 2250 Highway 50. These tags are non-refundable and non-transferable. The seedlings removed are intended for personal use only and are not for commercial resale.

There are two seasons that are considered best for transplanting, spring and fall. Transplanting in other than early spring or late fall is not recommended due to lower survival rates during the heat of the summer. Extracting seedlings is also nearly impossible when the ground is frozen, not to mention hard on the roots. Keep in mind that the climate/temperature change from 9000 feet to the valley floor of the surrounding communities is dramatic. Your transplanted aspen may not thrive at lower elevations.

For more information regarding the Aspen Seedling Transplant program, please call the Grand Valley Ranger District at (970) 242-8211 or the Forest Service Office in Delta at (970)874-6600.

